

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SY-05 VO-03 INSE-00 DEAE-00 SSO-00 HEW-04

AID-05 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /050 W

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O R 290930Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1377

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL UDORN

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DEPT FOR D/HA/ORM

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: EPP MEDICAL PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 185859

1. SUBSTANCE REFTEL DISCUSSED WITH ICEM, CORCOS AND KARAULNIK, 28 JUL 76. THEY POINTED OUT THAT USPHS, AND THE INA, LISTS ONLY MENTAL DEFECTS, VD AND TUBERCULOSIS AS CLASS A "EXCLUDABLE" DISEASES. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MENTAL DEFECTS, THESE DISEASES, AND OTHERS, ARE TREATED TO BRING THE CONDITION DOWN TO A MANAGEABLE OR NON-ACTIVE LEVEL BEFORE TRAVEL IS AUTHORIZED. DISEASE DETECTED, AND TREATMENT PROVIDED, IS NOTED ON THE USPHS MEDICAL FORMS WHICH ACCOMPANY THE REFUGEE TO CONUS AS PART OF THEIR "IMMIGRATION" PACKAGE. IT APPEARS THAT THESE FORMS ARE RETAINED BY USPHS AT POE, RATHER THAN BEING FORWARDED TO APPROPRIATE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES IN THE REFUGEE'S NEW LOCATION. POST WOULD APPRECIATE EPP NUMBERS AND NAMES OF CASES MENTIONED REFTEL IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT ERROR WAS MADE ON THE PART OF THE THAI HOSPITAL STAFFS. IT WOULD ALSO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HELPFUL TO KNOW HOW LONG AFTER ARRIVAL IN CONUS THE MEDICAL

PROBLEMS INDICATED CROPPED UP. IN ANY CASE, DR. KARaulNIK WILL DIRECT THE CONTRACTED HOSPITALS TO BE MORE "CAREFUL IN THE FUTURE." FQ, ICEM HAS THIRTEEN REFUGEES, TOTAL OF 49 PEOPLE IN THEIR FAMILIES, ON MEDICAL (TB) HOLD AT PRESENT TIME.

2. ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF ADVERSE MEDICAL CONDITIONS TO THE VOLAG AND/OR THE SPONSOR IS ANOTHER PROBLEM. SERIOUS, AND OBVIOUS, CONDITIONS SUCH AS MAJOR AMPUTATIONS, BLINDNESS, PARALYSIS, ETC. WOULD NORMALLY BE REPORTED AS PART OF THE BIO CABLE AT TIME OF INITIAL INTERVIEW. THE NEXT USG OR ICEM CONTACT WITH THE REFUGEE FAMILY, OF TIMES ONE TO SIX MONTHS LATER, WILL USUALLY BE AFTER POST RECEIPT OF SPONSORSHIP CABLE AND ONLY ONE OR TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE CAMP FOR OUTPROCESSING AND MEDICAL EXAM IN BANGKOK. AS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY MEDICAL PROBLEMS, AND TREATMENT PROVIDED, ARE SHOWN ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S FORMS WHICH ARE CARRIED TO POE BY THE REFUGEE. PROBLEM ARISES CONCERNING TRANSMITTAL OF THIS MEDICAL INFORMATION. ICEM MEDICAL STAFF IS CONCERNED ABOUT (A) PROTECTING CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION ON BEHALF OF REFUGEE AND (B) INSURING THAT MEDICAL DATA IS NOT MISINTERPRETED BY NON-MEDICAL PEOPLE TO POSSIBLE DETRIMENT OF REFUGEE-SPONSORSHIP RELATION. ICEM WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO VOLAGS THAT THIS INFORMATION IS TAKEN FROM ONLY A CURSORY MEDICAL EXAM TO MEET PUBLIC HEALTH IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS. ICEM MEDICAL DEPT IS WHOMWHAT SENSITIVE THAT VOLAGS NOT HAVE EXPECTATIONS OF COMPLETE MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

3. ICEM IS DISCUSSING THE MEDICAL NOTIFICATION PROBLEM WITH THEIR GENEVA HEADQUARTERS. THEIR MOST RECENT BANGKOK TELEX, 17 JUL, IS REPEATED BELOW: QUOTE: FROM BKK, PAROLEE CASES DEPART WITH CLOSED ENVELOPE CONTAINING AMONG MANY OTHER DOCUMENTS, MEDICAL EXAMINATION FORMS AND BLOOD TEST AND X-RAY REPORTS. NO CHEST FILMS ARE SENT TO USA. THESE ARE PRESENTLY KEPT IN ICEM OFFICE WHILE PREVIOUS ONES WERE KEPT BY 5TH FIELD HOSPITAL. THUS, WE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY USREF AND 5TH FIELD HOSPITAL. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION PROVIDE VOLAGS WITH COPY ALL MEDICAL DOCUMENTS. HOWEVER, REASONS FOR WHICH HAD SUGGESTED APPROVAL USPHS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE OBTAINED WAS BECAUSE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS WERE MADE AT REQUEST USPHS.

AA-VOLAGS WERE SUPPOSED TO RECEIVE ADVANCE INFORMATION CONCERNING PHYSICAL DISABILITIES THROUGH THE BIO DATA PREPARED BY USREF EARLY STAGE DURING REFS' FIRST INTERVIEW AND

THESE DATA CURRENTLY MADE AVAIL TO VOLAGS.

BB-NE PROCEDURE BY WHICH VOLAGS NOTIFIED 7/8 DAYS IN

ADVANCE OF BOOKINGS DOES NOT MODIFY PERIOD AT WHICH REFS
ARRIVE TRANSIT CENTER BKK. THESE ARRIVE 2 TO 4 DAYS ONLY
PRIOR EMPLANING STOP REFS ARRIVE BKK SUNDAY OR WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS AND MEDICAL FINDINGS ARE COMPLETED AT THE EARLIEST,
ONE DAY PRIOR REFS' DEPARTURE. HOWEVER, WE CAN IN FUTURE
ASSOON AS DETECTED DURING MEDICAL EXAM BKK, CABLE OBVIOUS
PHYSICAL DISABILITY TO ICEM NEW YORK FOR COMMUNICATION TO
RELEVANT VOLAG.

CC-SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO GIVE MEDICAL DOCUMENTS TO
VOLAGS WE WILL AWAIT RECEIPT YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.

DD-BEARING IN MIND THAT NOT ALL VOLAGS ARE REPRESENTED
AT PORTS OF ENTRY, WE WOULD SUGGEST MEDICALS BE SENT WITH
FLTS DESTINED NEW YORK, ADDRESSED TO ICEM OFFICE FOR
DESTINATION RELEVANT AGENCIES. UNQUOTE.

AS INDICATED IN PARA CC, ICEM/BANGKOK IS AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS
FROM ICEM/GENEVA BEFORE IMPLEMENTING WHATEVER DISTRIBUTION
OF REFUGEE MEDICAL INFORMATION IS AGREED UPON BY ORM, USPHS,
ICEM AND THE VOLAGS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, MEDICAL CARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO21340
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760293-0175
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760711/aaaaaiyx.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 185859
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EPP MEDICAL PROBLEMS
TAGS: SREF, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006